

§ 10.304

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amended from time to time by the Customs Cooperation Council.

(d) *Articles of feather.* The goods are eligible to be treated as originating in Canada pursuant to General Note 3(c)(vii)(R)(12)(ee), HTSUS.

[T.D. 92–8, 57 FR 2453, Jan. 22, 1992]

§ 10.304 Exclusions.

(a) *Changes based on simple processing.* No goods shall be considered originating for purposes of eligibility under the Agreement if they have merely undergone simple packaging or simple combining operations, or have undergone mere dilution with water or with another substance that does not materially alter the characteristics of the goods.

(b) *Other excluded processing.* No goods shall be considered to be originating merely by virtue of having undergone any process or work in which the facts clearly justify the presumption that the sole object was to circumvent the provisions of Chapter 3 of the Agreement.

§ 10.305 Value content requirement.

(a) *Direct cost of processing or assembling—(1) Definition.* For purposes of applying a specific rule of origin under the Agreement which requires a value content determination, the terms “direct cost of processing” and “direct cost of assembling” mean the costs directly incurred in, or that can be reasonably allocated to, the production of goods, including:

(i) The cost of all labor, including benefits and on-the-job training, labor provided in connection with supervision, quality control, shipping, receiving, storage, packaging, management at the location of the process or assembly, and other like labor, whether provided by employees or independent contractors;

(ii) The cost of inspecting and testing the goods;

(iii) The cost of energy, fuel, dies, molds, tooling, and the depreciation and maintenance of machinery and equipment, without regard to whether they originate within the territory of the United States or Canada;

(iv) Development, design, and engineering costs;

(v) Rent, mortgage interest, depreciation on buildings, property insurance premiums, maintenance, taxes and the cost of utilities for real property used in the production of the goods; and

(vi) Royalty, licensing, or other like payments for the right to the goods.

(2) *Exclusions from direct costs of processing or assembling.* Excluded from the direct costs of processing or assembling are:

(i) Costs relating to the general expense of doing business, such as the cost of providing executive, financial, sales, advertising, marketing, accounting and legal services, and insurance;

(ii) Brokerage charges relating to the importation and exportation of goods;

(iii) Costs for telephone, mail, and other means of communication;

(iv) Packing costs for exporting the goods;

(v) Royalty payments related to a licensing agreement to distribute or sell the goods;

(vi) Rent, mortgage interest, depreciation on buildings, property insurance premiums, maintenance, taxes, and the cost of utilities for real property used by personnel charged with administrative functions; and

(vii) Profit on the goods.

(3) *Interpretation—(i) Indirect materials.* Under the definition of “materials” set forth in § 10.303(b), certain types of materials are treated as direct costs of processing or assembling under paragraph (a) of this section. This applies principally to materials used or consumed indirectly in the production of exported goods, where no portion of those materials is physically incorporated in the exported goods. In addition to the items specified in paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of this section, such materials include items such as gloves and safety glasses worn by production workers, tape used in painting processes, and tools, materials and spare parts used in the repair and maintenance of machinery and equipment used in the production of the exported goods. Such materials are to be distinguished from waste and spoilage specified in paragraph (b)(1)(ii)(C) of this section, which relate to materials that are physically incorporated in the exported goods.